Modern Medicine beta
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The 150 best financial advisers for doctors: Our exclusive list

Don't trust your nest egg to just anyone. These advisers have the expertise you deserve.

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By: Dennis Murray
Medical Economics

Congratulations! The fact that you've turned to this article probably means you've amassed enough of a nest egg to want to put it in capable hands. And not just with any financial adviser, but with someone who has experience working with doctors and the issues particular to them.

This article is designed to help you find just such a person. We've done the hard work of searching the country for the best financial advisers for doctors. Our editors have spent the better part of six months gathering names of potential candidates. In addition to mailing questionnaires to the advisers who made our previous list (which was published in 2004), we contacted advisers recommended to us by financial planning professional societies, as well as those who received praise from readers like you, whom we solicited with an open call for nominations earlier this year.

Over the summer, our mailboxes were filled with hundreds of completed questionnaires, detailing advisers' credentials, education, areas of expertise, total amount of assets under management, percentage of physician clients, noteworthy professional achievements, and affiliations with medical organizations. Some advisers, we found, serve on hospital boards; others have a spouse or child who's a doctor. A few of them *are* physicians, who left the day-to-day practice of medicine to maintain their clients' financial health.

To whittle down our list of candidates, we gave preference to those who came recommended to us by your colleagues and those who limit the percentage of compensation they earn from commissions. Commissions, we feel, can predispose an adviser to steer you toward a financial product that may be better for him (in terms of income) than it is for you. That's certainly not always the case, of course, but the odds that you'll receive unbiased advice are greater if you use a "fee-only" planner, one who makes no money from commissions.

As was the case when we published our list two years ago, we received multiple nominations from the same firm or brokerage. However, to give us the broadest geographic reach—we wanted at least one adviser in each state—we made the tough decision to limit our selections to one adviser per firm, even though many firms nominated several qualified partners. By the way, don't hesitate to call an adviser just because his place of business isn't near you; most advisers are willing to travel considerable distances to meet with their clients.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Marsha G. LePhew, CFP, CPA/PFS, Ch
LePhew Financial Services
Rock Hill
803-329-5125
marsha@lephew.com

Bill Prewitt, CFP
Charleston Financial Advisors
Charleston
843-722-3331
www.charlestonfinancial.net
Minimum portfolio: $250,000

James E. Wilson, CFP
J.E. Wilson Advisors
Columbia
803-799-9203
www.jewilson.com
Minimum portfolio: $1 million